

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims**

5            Claim 1.            (currently amended) A shoe having an upper member and a foot supporting member, the foot supporting member comprising:

                 a substantially rigid member having a dorsal surface and a plantar surface;

                 the plantar surface having a ~~convex~~ foot strike ~~portion~~ member, and an adjacent ~~concave portion~~ angular displacement member extending forward past the tips of the  
10            digits portion of the plantar surface of the shoe and terminating distally at a downwardly projecting balance-thrust member.

A4  
15            Claim 2 (currently amended): A shoe according to claim 1 ~~further comprising the plantar surface convex~~ includes a curved wherein the angular displacement surface member is located essentially below the portion of the plantar surface that corresponds to the sesamoid apparatus of the first metatarsal phalangeal joint and defining a first axis of rotation of the foot.

20            Claim 3 (currently amended): A shoe according to claim 2 ~~further comprising wherein the balance-thrust member defining~~ defines a second axis of rotation of the shoe ~~foot~~ forward of the portion of the plantar surface corresponding to the forward tips of the digits ~~wearer's foot.~~

25            Claim 4 (currently amended): A shoe according to claim 2 ~~further wherein curved~~ the angular displacement surface member and the balance-thrust member are positioned so that when both are in contact with the ground, the sesamoid apparatus portion of the plantar surface is elevated with respect to the digit portion of the plantar surfaces.

                 Claim 5 (currently amended): A shoe according to claim 1 further comprising a foot strike member adjacent the angular displacement member ~~convex surface~~.

Claim 6 (~~currently amended~~ previously presented): A shoe according to claim 1 further comprising the dorsal surface including a concave portion having a curvature selected to support the digits of the wearer's foot in a dorsiflexed position relative to the metatarsals.

5            Claim 7.            (currently amended) A shoe having an upper member and a foot supporting member, the foot supporting member comprising:

                 a an substantially essentially rigid member having a dorsal surface and a plantar surface;

10            the plantar surface having a ~~convex portion~~ angular displacement member and ~~an adjacent concave portion, the concave portion~~ a downwardly projecting balance-thrust member that -extending is located on the plantar surface essentially forward -past of the tips of the digits portion of the plantar surface of the shoe and terminating distally at a downwardly projecting balance thrust member;

15            wherein the plantar surface convex including a the curved angular displacement surface member is located essentially below the portion of the plantar surface corresponding to the -sesamoid apparatus of the first metatarsal phalangeal joint; and defining a first axis of rotation of the foot;

20            wherein the balance-thrust member defining defines a-an second axis of rotation of the shoe foot-forward of the wearer's foot portion of the plantar surface corresponding to the forward tips of the digits.

                 Claim 8.            (new) A shoe having an upper member and a foot supporting member,

                 the foot supporting member having a dorsal surface and a plantar surface;

25            the plantar surface having an angular displacement member projecting downward relative to the adjacent forward portion of plantar surface and located essentially below the portion of the plantar surface corresponding to the sesamoid apparatus of the first metatarsal phalangeal joint;

Application No. 10/045, 009  
Amdt. Dated September 22, 2003  
Reply to Office Action of March 24, 2003

the plantar surface further having a downwardly projecting balance-thrust member located on the plantar surface essentially at or forward of the tips of the digits portion of the plantar surface.

---